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EPA-REGION 10

I want to express my concern about the cleanup plan for the Portland Harbor and Willamette River. While I applaud efforts to remove contaminants from the river, I do not support spending more than necessary. If there is a way to do this effectively for, say, \$250 million versus \$1 billion, we need to go with the less costly plan. Depending on old data to make decisions about the current state of the river is not wise.

It makes no sense to do more and spend more to clean the soil and sediment from an area that many people in Portland enjoy. As a retired architect who has lived in Portland since 1971, I occasionally visit businesses on the waterfront. Imagine what it will do for tourism when the Willamette River becomes a decades-long construction zone. It wouldn't be a pretty sight. I foresee a loss of jobs and an unnecessary approach that risks having a long-term economic impact. We need a less invasive way to improve our environment.

Reversing the progress from natural restoration keeps us from the boating, canoeing and fishing that many residents love. And once this excessive undertaking is finished, we could be still be deprived because some contaminants remain in the water. I suggest exploring options to get this done in a minimal way. Engage local experts in the final decision, since the river serves local people, not the federal government.

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